

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 274

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2003

Received, read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Blackwater National
3 Wildlife Refuge Expansion Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Garrett Island, located at the mouth of the
7 Susquehanna River in Cecil County, Maryland, is a
8 microcosm of the geology and geography of the re-
9 gion, including hard rock piedmont, coastal plain,
10 and volcanic formations.

11 (2) Garrett Island is the only rocky island in
12 the tidal waters of the Chesapeake.

13 (3) Garrett Island and adjacent waters provide
14 high-quality habitat for bird and fish species.

15 (4) Garrett Island contains significant archae-
16 ological sites reflecting human history and prehistory
17 of the region.

18 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR INCLU-**
19 **SION IN THE BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILD-**
20 **LIFE REFUGE.**

21 (a) ACQUISITION.—The Secretary of the Interior may
22 use otherwise available amounts to acquire the area known
23 as Garrett Island, consisting of approximately 198 acres
24 located at the mouth of the Susquehanna River in Cecil
25 County, Maryland.

1 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—Lands and interests acquired
2 by the United States under this section shall be managed
3 by the Secretary as the Garrett Island Unit of the
4 Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

5 (c) PURPOSES.—The purposes for which the Garrett
6 Island Unit is established and shall be managed are the
7 following:

8 (1) To support the Delmarva Conservation Cor-
9 ridor Demonstration Program.

10 (2) To conserve, restore, and manage habitats
11 as necessary to contribute to the migratory bird pop-
12 ulations prevalent in the Atlantic Flyway.

13 (3) To conserve, restore, and manage the sig-
14 nificant aquatic resource values associated with sub-
15 merged land adjacent to the unit and to achieve the
16 habitat objectives of the agreement known as the
17 Chesapeake 2000 Agreement.

18 (4) To conserve the archaeological resources on
19 the unit.

- 1 (5) To provide public access to the unit in a
2 manner that does not adversely impact natural re-
3 sources on and around the unit.

Passed the House of Representatives April 29, 2003.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.